



TAIRĀWHITI

WAIPAOA CATCHMENT PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting agenda, minutes, and actions

Meeting #1

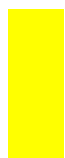
Held at Waikanae Surf Club on 12 July 2023 at 12:30pm

Group facilitator	Dr Jill Chrisp
Advisory Group members	Nicki Davies, Murray Palmer, Samuel Lewis, Stan Pardoe, Jacob Harrison, Shanna Cairns, Phil Gaukrodger, Grant Vincent, Tim Rhodes, Stuart Davis, Nick Briant, Tim Tietjen, Keith Katipa, Matawhero Lloyd, Dave Hawea, Colin Kerlake, Owen Lloyd, Joss Ruifrok, Leo Kelso
Council	Joanna Noble, Janic Slupski, Oliver Vetter, Ariel Yann le Chew, Paul Murphy, Sarah Thompson, Kara Moir, Desiré du Plooy Waverley Jones, Lois Easton, Wolfgang Kanz, Yvonne Legarth (online), Ian Mayhew (online), Olivier Ausseil (online)
Apologies	Bronwyn Wilson-Hokianga

Agenda

Karakia	12:30
Whakawhanaungatanga - welcome & introductions	12:35
Draft Terms of Reference	13:00
Session 1 – general overview and approaches, inclusive of:	13:15 – 14:15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Mana o te Wai • Integration into Regional Freshwater Plan • Regional Policy Statement • Project goals and deliverables 	
Session 2 – catchment specific focus on aspirations	14:15 – 14:45
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of values and FMUs • Vision – what do we want to achieve 	
Proposed review process and wrap-up	14:45
Closing karakia	14:55

Summary of actions



Future action –
put on Parking
List



Current Priority task



Overdue action

Task	Actions	Resp.	Due
T1	Council staff to liaise with each Advisory Group member to verify payment details	Kara	asap
T2	Provide Group members with the link and password to the website portal and allow for a demonstration on 16 August meeting. Add to portal interests and representation of members.	Oliver	asap
T3	Adapt the agenda and build into the agenda a level of storytelling to allow for context i.e., adding food-for-thought questions to the reports so members can come prepared of what the outcomes for each meeting will be, be outcome focused	Freshwater team	9 Aug
T4	Share resources/provide copies/hyperlinks of the presentation slides with the Group	Freshwater team	16 Aug
T5	Organise site visits to discuss topic-specific catchment issues	Freshwater team	Ongoing
T6	Sub-projects Te Arai and Maungarongo wetlands to be covered at a future meeting	Freshwater team	Before end of 2023

Minutes

1. **Karakia**
2. **Whakawhanaungatanga - welcome & introductions**
 - 2.1. Members, Council staff and external contractors directly involved in the catchment planning process introduced themselves.
 - 2.2. Staff shared general points, background and processes involved in the establishment of a Catchment Planning Advisory Group.
3. **Draft Terms of Reference**
 - 3.1. Staff outlined the draft Terms of Reference, key roles and responsibilities of the facilitator, members, and Council staff. The draft forms the basis of an agreement on how the members will work together for the next 11 months. Advisory Group members (referred to as 'the Group') will be paid for attendance. Council will reach out to each member to verify payment details.
 - 3.2. Further whakaaro on the current draft Terms of Reference is needed. A smaller focus group has been set up at the Regional Freshwater Planning Advisory Group (meeting held at 9:00 on same day) to revisit the current draft and table a revised Terms of Reference at the second meeting to be held in August. The changes will be applicable across both advisory groups to ensure a better integration of Te Ao Māori.
 - 3.3. Set-up of an interactive webpage is underway on Council's website for Group members to post ideas and comments for discussion. The monthly meeting dates, agendas, minutes, and relevant research will be saved in the document library. The link will be shared with the Group and a short demonstration will be organised for the next meeting.
 - 3.4. Tasks to be actioned:

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T1	Council staff to liaise with each Advisory Group member to verify payment details	Kara	asap
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4. Session 1 – General overview

- 4.1. Staff provided an overview of the existing plan, and where we are heading with the Waipaoa catchment. Key characteristics, uses and issues of the catchment were shared, highlighting Council's obligation to improve this catchment, to recover what has been lost for the benefit of the next generation.
- 4.2. Council operates under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020, which states how to manage water in a way that gives effect to Te Mana o te Wai. The legislative deadlines for this to be in place, is before the end of 2024.
- 4.3. Planning for this catchment will be done by considering the catchment's four Freshwater Management Units (FMUs). This Group will identify catchment values at the August meeting, followed by the setting of freshwater objectives, targets and limits for each FMU. Te Mana o te Wai's hierarchy of obligations is at the centre: priority goes to the health and wellbeing of the awa, followed by people, and then all other uses now and in the future.

5. Session 2 – Waipaoa catchment

- 5.1. Council staff outlined how the current framework for managing water quantity (water takes) and water quality is implemented. Overall, water quantity is over-allocated across almost all water sources, while water quality is continuing its degrading trend, with lake water quality poor across all but one lake.
- 5.2. **Water quantity** points raised by the Group are:
 - 5.2.1. The rules and laws for municipal water takes need to be policed as water is a significant resource to be protected. Council's response: Council's Compliance team is responsible for "policing" water takes; however, it is much harder to monitor water quality. Council's current implementation tools include using mobile pumps with GPS abilities to alert the Compliance team to when a user is taking water outside of the consented zone that is identified in their consent.
 - 5.2.2. The completed Makauri Aquifer Recharge (MAR) trial determined that it is technically feasible to recharge the aquifer. However, there's currently no resource consents lodged for a permanent MAR scheme. The Group expressed mixed opinions on the success and feasibility of the MAR scheme.
 - 5.2.3. Water allocation is considered the primary problem and an innovative approach is needed. Onsite water storage and allocations need to be addressed whether it is joint storage arrangements, or something completely different. The region's geology makes it difficult for a large-scale water storage scheme. Council staff also proposed exploring an alternate use of the city's wastewater. Proportionality vs percentage of permits also needs to be explored.
 - 5.2.4. Question relating to 'Minimum Annual Low Flow (MALF)' which is being reviewed but thought to be higher than in the last plan. Staff highlighted importance for the Group to collectively understand what is the minimum value that will support the river's life-supporting system.

5.3. **Water quality** points raised by the Group are:

5.3.1. Council's monitoring system has improved, from that which was available while developing the last Waipaoa Catchment Plan. In addition to this, more monitoring tools are now available which has improved Council's data as well as the quality of the data.

5.3.2. A more pragmatic approach is needed to address the long-standing issue of wastewater overflows.

5.3.3. Need to be mindful of saltwater intrusion and marine outfall as the source of intrusion has not yet been confirmed.

5.3.4. Group members expressed interest in accessing environmental data to better understand the state of the environment.

5.3.5. One of the biggest issues is sediment, with elevated levels recorded in the Waipaoa catchment. Need to think more creatively on what can be done for instance in the tributaries.

5.3.6. Good flow monitoring data exists. 10-year trends are likely to be more representative than five-year trends due to the heavy rains experienced in the past three years.

5.3.7. The setting of limits will be discussed at a future meeting i.e., do we follow national standards, and/or regional standards, and/or iwi standards.

5.4. The meeting ran out of the allocated time. The outstanding items - sub-projects Te Arai catchment and Te Maungarongo o te Kooti Rikirangi wetland - will be addressed at a future meeting date.

5.5. Tasks to be actioned:

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T4	Share resources/provide copies/hyperlinks of the presentation slides with the Group	Freshwater team	16 Aug
T5	Organise site visits to discuss topic-specific catchment issues	Freshwater team	Ongoing
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6. **Proposed review process and wrap-up**

6.1. The proposed review process will involve reviewing the values and setting of a vision for the catchment, followed by setting environmental outcomes for each value. There are a lot of issues to address, but don't need to solve everything immediately. How we solve the issues, is within the hands of this Group.

6.2. Members applied to be part of this Group based on their own individual experiences, interests, and knowledge, and don't represent organisations.

7. **Closing karakia**

The meeting closed at 15:00 with a karakia. The next Group meeting is scheduled for 16 August 2023.
